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## FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

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### AFRICA.

*Report from Cape Town—Examination of rodents for plague infection in the Colony.*

The following is received from the medical officer of health for Cape Colony, under date of September 17, 1906:

*East London.*—Week ended September 15, 1906. Rodents examined, 55; 3 found dead; 1 plague infected.

*King Williams Town.*—Rodents examined, 53; 9 found dead; no infection.

*Port Elizabeth.*—Rodents examined, 303; 11 found dead; no infection.

*Reports from Rio de Janeiro—Inspection of vessels—Plague, smallpox, and yellow fever—Recrudescence of plague in Rio de Janeiro—Destruction of rats.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, September 26 and October 1, as follows:

Week ended September 23, 1906. Vessels inspected and received bills of health as follows: On the 17th instant the British steamship *Archbank*, for some southern United States port, via St. Lucia for orders and for disinfection, in water ballast, no passengers, and with no change in the crew personnel; on the 18th instant the British steamship *Sahara*, for Philadelphia, with a cargo of manganese ore, no passengers, and with no change in the crew personnel; on the same date the British steamship *Volga*, for New York, with no cargo, water ballast, no passengers, and no change in the crew while here; on the 20th instant the British steamship *Homer*, for New Orleans, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers, and with no change in the crew while in this port; on the 21st instant the British steamship *Canning*, for New York, with 3 first-class and 14 steerage passengers from here, no change in the crew, and on the 22d instant the British steamship *Dacre Hill*, for some southern United States port, via St. Lucia for orders and disinfection, with no passengers and no change in the crew and in water ballast.

This last named vessel was not inspected; received a bill of health from the consulate-general.

No other vessels left this port during the week requiring inspection.

*Plague in Campos, State of Rio.*—The latest reports indicate that

plague in Campos has been eradicated. The disease was probably imported. No cases have been reported for more than seven days.

*Mortality, city of Rio de Janeiro.*—Week ended September 23, 1906. Total deaths, 297, including 3 from bubonic plague. There were also 15 new cases of plague, and during the last 3 weeks 31 cases of plague with only 5 deaths. No cases of yellow fever or deaths were reported, this being the sixth week since any cases of this disease have occurred in this city. Variola caused 3 cases but no deaths. At the close of the week there were 2 cases of variola and 14 cases of plague in the Hospital São Sebastião, and there were also 20 cases of suspicious illness held there for observation. Rats caught during the week, 9,686. Total rats to date, 1,070,522.

Week ended September 30, 1906. Vessels inspected and received bills of health as follows: On the 25th ultimo, the British steamship *Kensington*, for some southern port, via St. Lucia, West Indies, for orders, in water ballast, with no passengers, and no change in the crew personnel while in this port; on the 26th ultimo the German steamship *Seigmund*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers of the first class, but 3 steerage passengers from this port and with no change in the crew while here; the British steamship *Bedouin*, for Savannah, in water ballast, no passengers and no change in the crew; the British steamship *Italian Prince*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers and no change in the personnel of the crew while here; on the 28th ultimo the British steamship *Elswick Grange*, for New Orleans, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers and no change in the vessel's personnel while in this port.

No other vessels requiring inspection left this port during the period under consideration.

*Bubonic plague in State of Bahia, Brazil.*—A dispatch received here on the 29th ultimo states that a case of plague had been reported from the island of Itaparica, State of Bahia and across the bay of Bahia from the city of the same name, locally known as San Salvador da Bahia. No further reports have been received up to this date.

*Mortality reports, State of São Paulo, Brazil.*—São Paulo, capital of State. Week ended September 23, 1906. Total deaths, 105, including 1 from bubonic plague (died in isolation hospital).

*Mortality in Rio de Janeiro.*—Week ended September 30, 1906. Total deaths, 266. One case and 1 death from yellow fever, the first case occurring here in 7 weeks; 4 cases and 2 deaths from bubonic plague, and 2 new cases; no deaths from variola.

In regard to the fatal case of yellow fever the health report for the week bears the following statement: "This fatal case offers no explanation as to its origin." At the close of the week there were in the Hospital São Sebastião 2 cases of variola, 14 cases of plague, and 20 cases of suspicious illness under observation.

*The late recrudescence of bubonic plague in Rio.*—Plague cases have considerably increased in number during the past few weeks. The record of cases for the last five weeks is as follows: 3, 6, 10, 15, 4. Deaths for same periods as follows: 2, 0, 3, 2, 2. Plague in Rio appears to reach its height at this season, and many of the foci occurred in localities where houses were in the process of demolition for the purpose of opening up new and wider streets. These foci have in most cases been destroyed by this demolition.